



|N|o.|2|9|2| |A|U|G|U|S|T| |2|0|1|4|



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The written letter remains, the weak word perishes.  
Proverbial (Latin).

**|G|R|I|D|A|T|O|R|I|A|L|**

**|F|R|O|M| |T|H|E|  
|A|D|J|U|D|I|C|A|T|O|R|**

Once again it is encouraging to read that doing crosswords might stave off Alzheimer's. This latest study tells us that the research, which was presented to the Alzheimer's Association International Conference in Copenhagen, found that these kinds of brain-stimulating activities could help preserve vulnerable brain structures and cognitive functions. People who spent more time playing mentally stimulating games were also more likely to perform better in learning, memory and information processing tests, researchers said.

The researchers, from Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute and the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Disease Research Centre in the US, examined 329 people with an average age of 60 who were healthy but deemed to be at a higher risk of Alzheimer's disease because of their genetic background or family history. The participants were asked how often they took part in activities such as reading books, going to museums, playing card games or doing puzzles. The researchers found that people who reported playing games such as cards, draughts, crosswords or other puzzles were more likely to have a greater brain volume in several regions involved in Alzheimer's disease and higher scores on cognitive tests. [Continued on p9]

This month we have another challenging set of puzzles and a Quiz for you expertly chosen by our eminently capable Puzzle Editor **Ian Williams**. Some of our favourite compilers include *Jesso* and *InGrid*. In the Slot 1 puzzle we have a Half 'n Half by *Sinbad* and the ever-popular AJ has been devised by *Valkyrie*. And we welcome back *Praxis* with another of his outstanding puzzles as the Slot 5 cryptic titled *Minnie's Boys*. In the Slot 6 spot we have a challenging cryptic puzzle designed by *Zythum*. Our Quiz this month is titled *It's a Wrap* devised by our legendary *Virgo* together with our Secretary *Bev Cockburn*.

Best of Luck with your solving this month. —Patrick

I have had the pleasure of adjudicating Slots 1-5 a few times now, and the rewards (cards, greetings, cases of scotch and the like) always add to that pleasure. But this time a solver (name suppressed) sent me the most marvellous thing – a NUDIBRANCH! – well, a picture of one. Some of you may need to look up what a NUDIBRANCH is. I was thrilled.

**Slot 1:** A good opening Half 'n Half, obviously well liked. The most common error was EIRE (for EYRE). A sprinkling of blanks – but not many! – and some typo-type errors (SHEPARDS, GRAPESSHHT, GAAPESHOT, CONE (CODE), CAGGS).

**Slot 2:** No real problems. The only other blank square encountered (you are to be commended for taking our constant admonitions about blanks to heart) and more typos: TOWNSWOMAH, NAR (NAP) and one OBLIGED (for OBLIGES).

**Slot 3:** Things are getting more serious now. Lots of falling into error here on one variation (NAVIGATE) for KAMIKAZE. Other slip-ups that felled some mighty solvers were HELIOS (GENIUS), DEFEATED (DEMENTED), IRRISISTIBLE (IRRESISTIBLE). Other than those, mainly typos again (DEMENTED, PING/DING for WING, TOEE).

**Slot 4:** Oh dear. Hands up if you thought OUTAGED was a word? *Chambers* and *Macquarie* only have OUTAGE as a noun but 30 or so solvers tried it on with OUTAGED rather than the sought-after OUTAGES. Other problems included a number of MENACES (MENACED), FAREPOT/COP (FAREBOX), BATH TUB (BATH BUN) and variations on CONCHY (CONCHE, CONCHI, CONCHA).

**Slot 5:** Look at the comments from solvers to see how popular *Crowsman's* Slot 5 was, although there were many pointing out its difficulty. Notwithstanding that, only a very small numbers of errors (CAROUSEL, COLLETT/COLDEST) and one unfilled lower RH corner.

**COTM:** Every Slot got some nominations, but KAMIKAZE in Slot 3 (11 ticks) and HOAX in Slot 4 (10 ticks) battled it out head-to-head, with KAMIKAZE just getting the nod. Interestingly, Slot 3 attracted the highest number of COTM nominations with wonderful answers such as ITINERANT, EASTER EGG and CARPET. Well done Michael!

As always, correspondence will be entered into if necessary, and I look forward to seeing some of you at Sunday's lunch. —David Grainger

**|L|E|A|D|I|N|G| |F|I|G|U|R|E|S|**

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	110	107	101	101	89	508
Correct entries	90	103	70	59	83	405
Success rate (%)	81.8	96.3	69.3	58.4	93.3	79.7
Prizewinners	Valerie Howard	Alison Martin	Pat Lord	Corryn Anderson	Judith Woodford	from 111 members

**H|I|G|H|L|I|G|H|T|S|**

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**Prizewinner: July 2014 Slots 1-5: Ian Thompson — Congratulations!**

**|L|E|A|D|I|N|G| |L|I|G|H|T|S|**

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<b>Puzzle Editor</b>	Ian Williams	12 Lindrum Cres, Holt ACT 2615	Ph (02) 6254 6860	ianw@webone.com.au

## July 1-2014

F	E	A	R	E	Y	R	E	I	A	M	B
L	P	A	I	R	A	W	N	I	N	G	A
O	O	P	S	N	A	M	E	C	A	L	L
R	E	P	E	E	B	R	I	G	H	T	E
E	T	N	L	R	E	E					
N	U	I	S	A	N	C	E	S	A	R	S
C	T	M	A	C	P	W					
E	R	E	L	O	N	G	O	B	E	S	E
O	U	E	R	S	A	A					
L	E	P	E	R	S	H	E	P	H	E	R
A	O	E	E	O	L	H					
S	P	E	D	L	A	R	S	T	A	G	M
C	O	L	D	C	O	D	E	P	R	O	A
A	A	G	O	U	T	I	C	A	S	E	K
R	A	R	E	S	C	A	T	E	Y	E	S

## July 2-2014

E	R	O	T	I	C	P	E	W	T	E	R
S	E	U	A	A	I	O					
U	M	B	E	R	N	E	W	S	T	A	N
R	U	K	A	N	T	N	O				
M	I	S	D	E	A	L	S	T	E	R	N
O	E	Y	E	R	I	E					
U	R	S	A	S	T	O	C	K	I	N	E
N	A	T	H	A	T						
T	O	W	N	S	W	O	M	A	N	G	O
A	A	S	R	O	B	C					
B	U	F	A	L	O	A	L	F	A	L	F
L	E	I	V	C	F	I	T				
E	N	R	O	L	M	E	N	T	E	A	G
A	E	R	E	N	E	D					
P	U	N	D	I	T	R	A	D	I	S	H

## July 3-2014

S	I	T	U	P	T	A	P	D	A	N	C	E	R
T	A	R	O	O	C	A	A						
A	L	L	C	O	M	E	R	S	K	O	R	A	N
R	L	C	O	M	E	R	S	K	O	R	A	N	
S	H	I	N	E	R	K	E	R	O	S	E	N	E
H	E	S	R	W	T	R							
I	R	R	E	S	I	S	T	I	B	L	E		
P	S	I	A	O	E	K	D						
M	G	N	E	R	G	M	M						
O	P	E	R	A	B	L	E	R	E	F	I	N	E
R	N	L	L	W	M	K	N						
A	L	I	B	I	T	I	N	E	R	A	N	T	
L	U	S	T	N	N	Z	E						
E	A	S	T	E	R	E	G	G	T	W	E	E	D

## July 4-2014

F	I	T	L	Z	M								
J	A	M	M	I	E	X	I	M	E	N	E	S	
R	P	R	E	N	A	N							
V	E	N	E	R	N	I	G	H	T	C	A	P	
B	R	O	C	E	I	C							
Y	O	G	I	R	O	A	D	R	U	N	N	E	R
X	A	P	I	D									
O	H	U	N	B									
Q	U	A	D	R	I	L	L	E	S	H	O	A	X
T	I	P	A	E	I	T							
G	A	U	N	T	L	E	T	C	O	N	C	H	Y
G	E	A	E	O	G	B							
P	E	E	R	E	S	K	N	E	E	S	U	P	
S	S	H	D	D	N								

## July 5-2014

C	A	R	O	U	S	A	L	R	E	C	A	P	
O	E	S	R	D	E	A	E						
C	O	L	L	E	C	T	E	X	C	I	T	E	D
O	I	R	I	V	E	H	A						
Y	A	C	K	S	C	H	I	P	P	I	E	S	T
A	U	L	T	R	E								
M	E	D	I	C	A	L	I	C	O	N	I	C	
S	O	R	A	N	R	N	E						
I	N	S	E	C	T	E	R	S					
A	C	S	E	A	P								
C	H	A	S	T	E	N	E	R	C	R	E	D	O
A	S	L	E	N	A	R	U						
C	O	T	T	E	R	S	A	S	C	I	A	N	S
I	E	S	S	T	H	S	E						
A	C	R	E	S	S	E	C	E	D	E	R	S	

## June 6-2014

S	T	R	E	E	P	O	C	U	L	I	S	T	S
H	E	U	O	U	E	T							
O	S	C	A	R	G	O	O	D	L	O	S	E	R
W	H	O	O	K	L	A	E						
G	R	A	L	D	I	A	I	M	E	E			
I	R	C	D	E	B	E	T						
R	U	G	R	A	T	M	A	Y	A				
L	E	S	T	O	I	C	H						
S	D	B	T	S	G	P	A						
T	R	O	L	L	U	N	T	O	C	H	E	R	
R	R	A	E	E	S	A	S						
A	L	I	E	N	A	T	O	R	W	I	L	D	E
I	A	C	T	A	I	L							
T	O	N	N	A	G	E	S	S	P	A	C	E	Y

## MEMBERS RESULTS FOR JUNE Slot 6 & JULY 2014 Slots 1-5

MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6
ABBOTT Patricia	.	.				
ALLEN W						.
ANDERSON C		.	.	.	.	
ARCHIBALD C	.	.			.	
AUDRINS K	.	.	.			
AUSTIN A	.	.				
AXELSEN U	.	.	.		.	.
BARBOUR J	.	.	.	.	.	.
BARNES J	.	.	.	.	.	.
BARRETT A	.	.	.			
BAYLIS J	.	.	.	.	.	.
BLAKE M	.	.	.	.	.	.
BUTLER D		.	.	.	.	.
CAINE R	.	.	.	.	.	.
CALLAN A&D	.	.	.	.	.	.
CAMERON H		.	.	.	.	.
CARPENTER R	.	.	.	.	.	.
CARROLL L	.	.	.	.	.	.
COATES D	.	.	.	.	.	.
COCKBURN B	.	.	.	.	.	.
COLE G	.	.	.	.	.	.
COLGAN L	.	.	.	.	.	.
COLLINS M	.	.	.	.	.	.
COPLAND F						.
COULTON L		.	.	.	.	.
COWAN M	.	.	.	.	.	.
CROMER H	.	.	.			
DAVIS M	.	.	.			.
DEARIE P						.
DE GRYS T	.	.	.	.	.	.
DENNIS M		.	.	.	.	.
DINHAM V	.	.	.	.		
DOBELE T		.	.	.	.	.
DORRELL R	.					
DOUGLAS R						.
DUCKER R	.	.	.	.	.	.
DYER A	.	.	.	.	.	.
EVANS Jean	.	.	.	.	.	.
FOWLER J	.	.	.	.	.	.

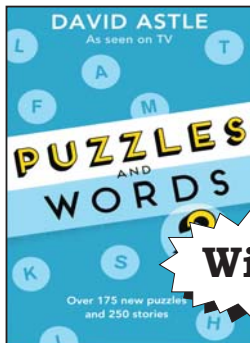
MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6
FREELAND J		.	.		.	.
GARNER P	.	.	.	.	.	.
GLISSAN B						.
GOODERICK R	.	.	.	.	.	.
GRAINGER D	.	.	.	.	.	.
GREENBERGER O						.
HAGAN B	.	.	.	.	.	.
HAMBLING C	.	.	.	.	.	.
HARPER K	.	.	.	.	.	.
HEMSLEY D	.	.	.	.	.	.
HEYES N	.	.	.	.	.	.
HOCKING A	.	.	.	.	.	.
HOWARD L	.	.	.	.	.	.
HOWARD V	.	.	.	.	.	.
HOWAT S	.	.	.	.	.	.
HOWELLS S	.	.	.	.	.	.
IBBOTT B	.	.	.	.	.	.
JARMAN L	.	.	.	.	.	.
JONES C	.	.	.	.	.	.
JONES D	.	.	.	.	.	.
KENNEDY L	.	.	.	.	.	.
KENNEDY M	.	.	.	.	.	.
KNIGHT S	.	.	.	.	.	.
LANKSHEAR J	.	.	.	.	.	.
LEE C	.	.	.	.	.	.
LEE N	.	.	.	.	.	.
LEEDS G	.	.	.	.	.	.
LEIGH J	.	.	.	.	.	.
LEMON G	.	.	.	.	.	.
LLOYD G	.	.	.	.	.	.
LOBSEY V	.	.	.	.	.	.
LORD P	.	.	.	.	.	.
McCLELLAND C	.	.	.	.	.	.
MacDOUGALL I	.	.	.	.	.	.
McGRATH J	.	.	.	.	.	.
MACKAY-SIM C	.	.	.	.	.	.
McKENZIE I	.	.	.	.	.	.
McMANUS D	.	.	.	.	.	.
McPHERSON T	.	.	.	.	.	.

MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6
MARTIN A	.	.	.	.	.	.
MARTIN Frank	.	.	.	.	.	.
MASON I	.	.	.	.	.	.
MEEK D	.	.	.	.	.	.
MERCER P	.	.	.	.	.	.
MILES A	.	.	.	.	.	.
MILTON R	.	.	.	.	.	.
MOLINE N				.		
MOLINE R	.	.	.	.	.	.
NOBLE C	.	.	.	.	.	.
O'BRIEN Eileen	.	.	.	.	.	.
PARSONS D	.	.	.	.	.	.
PATTERSON A	.	.	.	.	.	.
PEARCE J	.	.	.	.	.	.
PINDER S	.	.	.	.	.	.
POTTEN K	.	.	.	.	.	.
POTTS M	.	.	.	.	.	.
PROCTER D	.	.	.	.	.	.
PROCTER M	.	.	.	.	.	.
PYC M	.	.	.	.	.	.
RENDELL A	.	.	.	.	.	.
ROBERTSON S	.	.	.	.	.	.
RODDICK M	.	.	.	.	.	.
ROULSTON S	.	.	.	.	.	.
RYAN WG	.	.	.	.	.	.
SHIELD A	.	.	.	.	.	.
SIEGMAN B	.	.	.	.	.	.
SIMONS A	.	.	.	.	.	.
SKINNER R	.	.	.	.	.	.
SMITH J	.	.	.	.	.	.
STEINBERGER M	.	.	.	.	.	.
STOREY N	.	.	.	.	.	.
SYMONS B	.	.	.	.	.	.
TAYLOR R	.	.	.	.	.	.
THOMPSON I	.	.	.	.	.	.
TICKLE B	.	.	.	.	.	.
TOFONI B	.	.	.	.	.	.
VILLIERS W	.	.	.	.	.	.
WALTER A	.	.	.	.	.	.
WATT K	.	.	.	.	.	.
WEBBER B	.	.	.	.	.	.
WILCOX C	.	.	.	.	.	.
WIMBUSH R	.	.	.	.	.	.
WOODFORD J	.	.	.	.	.	.
YOUNG S	.	.	.	.	.	.

A	U	G	U	S	T
2	0	1	4		
S	L	O	T		1

**Half 'n Half**  
by  
**Sinbad**

**Prize:**



**Win!**

1		2			3	4		5		6		7		8
				9										
10								11						
12						13						14		
15		16								17				
									18					19
	20				21			22			23			
24						25								
26					27						28		29	
30									31					
32												33		

**Across**

- 1 Money (slang) (4)
- 3 Phillip's flotilla (5,5)
- 10 Shellfish, for example (7)
- 11 Doctrines (7)
- 12 Thread (5)
- 13 Caper (5)
- 14 Grape (3)
- 15 Mariner abandoned by 3, 27, 28, 4, 19 or 24 perhaps (8)
- 17 See 25 Down
- 20 Knot (5)
- 22 Finical (8)
- 26 Sailors' drink! (3)
- 27 Malay sailing-boat (5)
- 28 A Philippine cargo barge (5)
- 30 Long, narrow 17 boat (7)
- 31 Stance (7)
- 32 Types of protective coatings (10)
- 33 Alcoholic drink, often in 19 (4)

**Down**

- 1 Plate framework found on the kitchen sink (4,4)
- 2 See 18
- 4 Country fellow, once engaged in trade with Asia (8)
- 5 Small boats wrecked to make wooden clogs (6)
- 6 Mediterranean vessel constructed of iron, carbon, copper aluminium alloy (7)
- 7 Musician from European Commission united leaders of the Anglo-Norman towns (9)
- 8 State crew for distinguished mariner (6)
- 9 Daemon turned a shade of crimson (6)
- 16 Cargo intended, by the sound of it, to be carried by vessels (9)
- 18 **and** 2 Description of meteorological phenomena in film following lover's defences (8,5)
- 19 Two-masted sailing boat may be full of 33 (8)
- 21 Much evidence of police debt? (7)
- 23 Waterproof overshoe found in Antarctica (6)
- 24 West Indian vessel sunken in hydro, Gerry (6)
- 25 **and** 17 Former airline air-conditioned - Lana flew back over waterway (6,5)
- 29 Large fishing-net found in French river (5)

|S|E|N|D|  
|S|O|L|U|T|I|O|N|S|  
|T|O|:

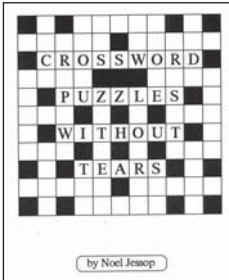
Slots 1-5: Brian Symons, 1 Kookaburra Pl, Grays Point NSW 2232.  
e-mail: [bms65@bigpond.com](mailto:bms65@bigpond.com)  
Closing mail date: Friday 29 August 2014.  
e-lodgment: [ianw@webone.com.au](mailto:ianw@webone.com.au)  
Slot 6: Kay Williams, 12 Lindrum Crescent, Holt ACT 2615.  
email: [ianw@webone.com.au](mailto:ianw@webone.com.au)  
Closing mail date: 12 September 2014.

G	O	O	D		
G	R	I	D	S	
P	A	G	E		11

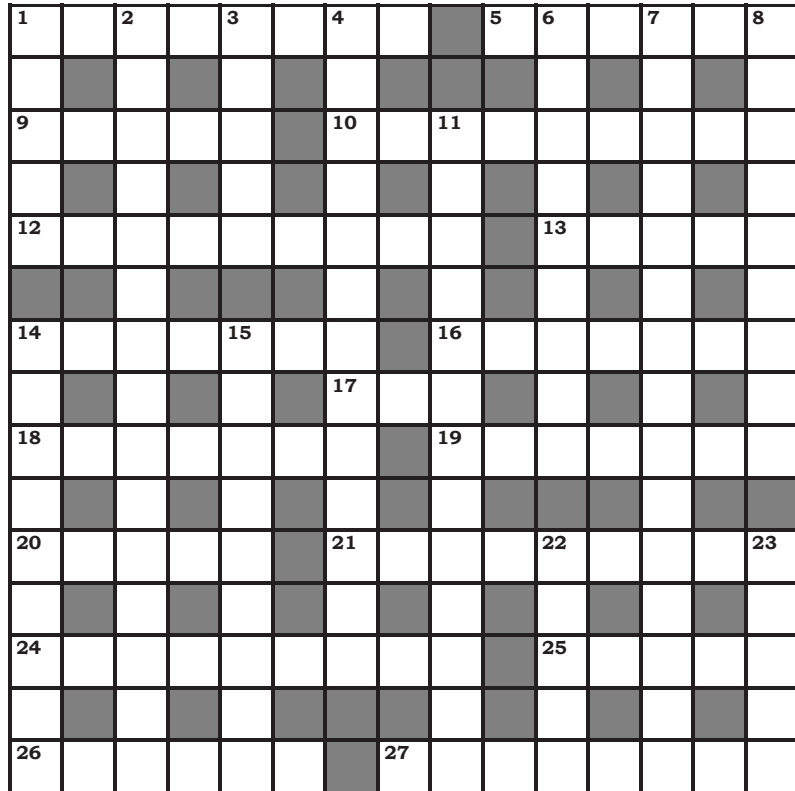
A	U	G	U	S	T
2	0	1	4		
S	L	O	T		2

## Cryptic

by  
**Jesso**



Book Prize kindly donated  
by Claire Batum



### Across

- 1 Literary language of four cardinals on mountain (8)
- 5 Work practices for works (6)
- 9 Cricketer turned politician: "I may start with the navy" (5)
- 10 Colour conflict over insane riot (3,6)
- 12 Flies low, dances behind barrier (5-4)
- 13 Cold look at politician's heavy tread (5)
- 14 Beat king up for support (7)
- 16 Brought on, not out of the French church, dead (7)
- 17 Managed our sailors (3)
- 18 Intensify, hence an alteration (7)
- 19 Jewel in one dark side of a meteor (7)
- 20 Elicit a note on Mussolini (5)
- 21 Of scurvy CIB's court shambles (9)
- 24 Protected that woman officer before date (9)
- 25 Look at couch having rounded projections (5)
- 26 Drains out lowest points (6)


- 27 Weapon Arab altered for fear that ... (8)

### Down

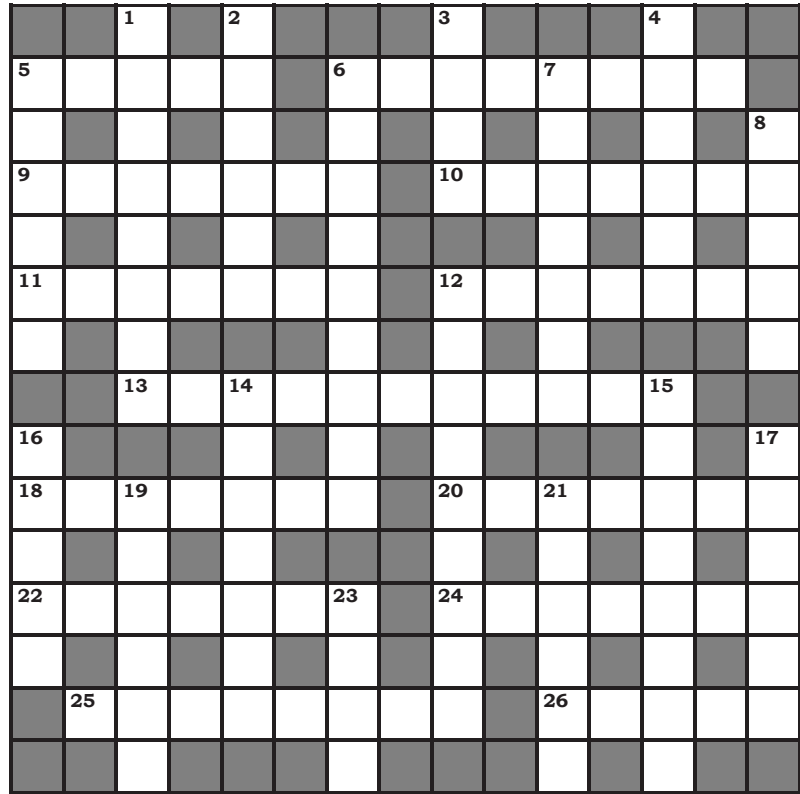
- 1 Winnie, say, close about sweetheart? (5)
- 2 Rudd: who won title? Liberally? For ever? (5,7,3)
- 3 Enclose coppers for church? Au contraire! (5)
- 4 Warm and dry poultice on alternative source of power (3-10)
- 6 Pair in church party making initial jurisdiction (9)
- 7 Elder to study firm policeman (6,9)
- 8 Rushed! Impressed media boss (9)
- 11 Laundry aid standing the test with cosmetic (7-6)
- 14 Author in street getting odds available (9)
- 15 Batsman's place on the ladder improved, missing the start (3-6)
- 22 Prepared a slab of light timber (5)
- 23 Trainee acted badly (5)

### GENERAL COMMENTS:

- I was absolutely delighted to win the June 2014 Slots 1-5 prize. Please pass on my thanks to those concerned. *John Baylis*
- Many thanks to all involved for my prize for Quiz No 4 – how many people get paid for having fun?!!! Usually the other way round! *Eileen O'Brien*
- Thank you for publishing the current list of Compilers of the ACC; that was a very quick response to my suggestion. *Gabrielle Leeds*
- I am blown away to have received a prize...with such a record for carelessness, I do not deserve it, so thankyou. CrOZ....in "fourplicate". MY word for quadruplicate! Renewed thanks, and a hug for whoever drew my unworthy name from the lucky dip. *Dale McManus*
- With all the adding and subtracting of letters this month, I was beginning to wonder whether my maths was up to the task! My Scots heritage had me favouring *Manveru's* 26dn in slot 3 (TWEED) for COTM, but (sticking with the Scots) I eventually decided on *Penobsco't's* slot 4 Z clue (ZEATIN). *Kath Harper*
- This was a good selection. Challenging and rewarding. Good mix of new words and new forms of words! *Frank Martin*

A U G U S T   2 0 1 4   S L O T   3
<h2 style="margin: 0;">Cryptic</h2> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 0;">by</p> <h2 style="margin: 0;">InGrid</h2>


The subsidiary part of every clue is lacking one element



**Across**

- 5 Slide rule mathematician (5)
- 6 Dive over new church proof (8)
- 9 Cueing disorganised about genetic improvement (7)
- 10 Say old stuff out loud (7)
- 11 Involve masculine cooking method (7)
- 12 Call up from the dead lost avocet (7)
- 13 Salt perhaps that the French cry to let loose (11)
- 18 Constituent let cold in alternatively (7)
- 20 Look at the old dance (7)
- 22 Equal change has baron calm (7)
- 24 Allow directions to hold bird with one hand (7)
- 25 Computer system lost the rent (8)
- 26 Birds repair nest in here (5)

**Down**

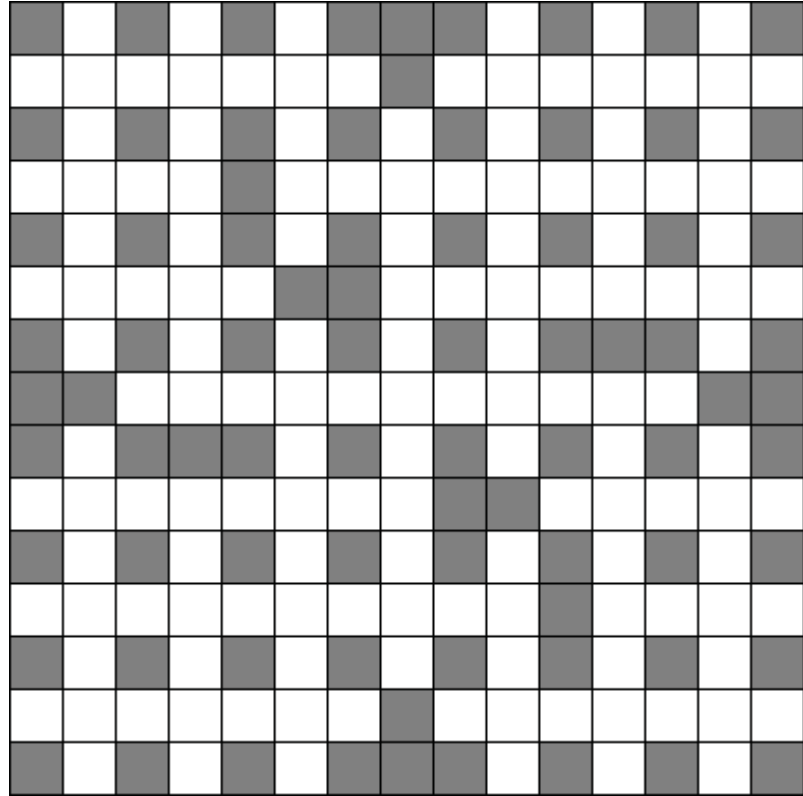
- 1 Acceptable fib about glib double Dutch (8)
- 2 Sea holly sounds like a Beatle (6)
- 3 Sovereign state heads in rural emergency (4)
- 4 Czech Republic measure a skin disease (6)
- 5 Sole venturer has the number (6)
- 6 People mover for la opera house on hill (9)
- 7 Easy pronunciation makes you sound fake (7)
- 8 Good man to head royal compound (5)
- 12 Breakout run team for time (9)
- 14 Can be consumed at a bar (7)
- 15 Challenging unknown artistry (8)
- 16 Fisherman lost reel (5)
- 17 First long drive ending really swiftly for seniors (6)
- 19 Purified liquid for both ends of lunch date (6)
- 21 Their confusion when given a choice? (6)
- 23 Long time being supported by seconds (4)

**GENERAL COMMENTS (cont'd from p4):**

- Many thanks to the ACC club membership and especially the executive for providing a wonderful challenge which I look forward to each month. As a bonus I was pleased to receive a generous cash prize last month – although my wife points out that the hourly rate may not be so good!  
*Jeremy Barnes*
- I like your selections. Was it deliberate? – in slot 5 we add a letter, and in slot 6 we remove a letter. Very balanced!! [Wish I was that clever – IW]  
*Alison Martin*
- I already had DA's previous publications so it was great to round out the collection with the receipt of *Puzzles & Words Volume 2* – a welcome prize for slot 1. Many thanks ACC.  
*Tony Dobelev*
- Such an unworthy (only three out of five dots) entry [last month] but my poor effort scored. So thankyou Croz, for my Slot 2 cheque ... I'll buy a magnifying glass to check my submissions!  
*Dale McManus*
- Excellent puzzles as always. No. 3 was the best of a good bunch.  
*Catherine Jones*
- Thanks so much for a prize [Slot 1, June] for doing what I really enjoy. Now if only I could receive a prize for doing the ironing (which I hate).  
*Barb Ibbott*
- Most challenging collection of puzzles of all time!  
*Pat Lord*
- Another interesting batch of puzzles.  
*Marian Procter*
- I thought the puzzles this month were very interesting.  
*Robyn Caine*



A U G U S T   2 0 1 4   S L O T   4
<b>AJ</b> by <b>Valkyrie</b>
<b>Prize</b> 



Solutions **end** with the given letter. Place them in the grid jigsaw-wise, where they fit. One word does not appear in the usual references, but is readily identified from the relevant entries.

- A** Unblended drink of ill-repute, half arsenic (4,3)
- B** Axe low trees and bushes (5)
- C** Blue-green arachnid has to shed tail to live in water(7)
- D** Staff instruction given by mahout while on his elephant? (4,7)
- E** Owls aside, cuckoo guards enclosed set-up (9)
- F** Some mosaics suit reversed, repeated pattern (5)
- G** Harassing the first person, for example, begins chaos outside (9)
- H** Employing advanced electronic developments, superior teacher disregarded both initial acceleration and central part of energy (4,4)
- I** Rum drink intoxicated a DI ahead of central enquiries (8)
- J** Rambling Irish brat, juvenile at first, came to power in the sub-continent (7,3)
- K** Featureless edge borders lake (5)
- L** Forming a partition, clock conceals view (10)
- M** A good philosophy is to be active in the morning without raising offence (8)
- N** It was a scientific hoax when flier, not a duck with feathers, preceded the male of the species (8,3)
- O** Explorer returned taking care of aromatic leaves (7)
- P** Vegetable crepe, enough pieces to go round (4)
- Q** V in France reportedly went downhill (4)
- R** Scale flounders, then catch old river fish (7)
- S** Cunning answer by head of Reformation Church to new letter (8)
- T** Timeworn, biting rancour has no bounds (3-3)
- U** Unarmed combat, it is protected by magic charm (2-5)
- V** A spew up when leader of sisterhood replaced model writer (6)
- W** Where to put ingredients when agitated (2,1,4)
- X** Bull supports small horse when night equals day (7)
- Y** Animal liberation was overturned by ... (5)
- Z** ... composer Berlin, not Norse but Australian (7)

**Explanations to July Grids, where provided by compilers.** Thanks to Joan, Michael, Maurice and Len.

**Slot 1 Timid Terrier. Down:** 1 DD, 2 anag, 3 r +asp, 4 hom (earn), 5 anag, 6 hidden, 7 DD, 8 ag + a + tes (set>), 9 bale + e + n, 16 ena + mour(n)ed, 18 gr + ape + shot, 20 c + ages, 21 s + core, 23 (h)owl, 25 hidden, 27 anag, 28 Ya(shma)ks, 29 la + scar, 30 pop(u)lar, 32 hero(n) + i + c, 34 initials, 35 anag, 36 se + ct, 37 ap(s)e.

**Slot 3 Manveru. Across:** 1 Double definition, 4 Cryptic , 9 Anag of ROMECALLS, 10 Containment, 11 Containment, 12 Anag of KEEN around EROS, 13 Anag of SLIT BERRIES and I, 17 Anag of A ROAD TEST with PUG, 20 Anag of EARLOBE around P, 21 REF+IN+E, 23 A+LIB+I, 24 Anag of o(RIENTATIN)g &lit, 25 E+ASTER+E+GG, 26 T+WEED. **Down:** 1 S(TARS)HIP, 2 T(ALL)IERS, 3 Anag of SALESPERSON around II, 4 Double definition, 5 Anag of TRIES in POOR, 6 Anag of DOG KENNEL CAME W and T, 7 CA(RPE)T, 8 RAN+GER, 14 Anag of EATS + L + LITE, 15 Cryptic definition, 16 DE(MEN+T)ED, 18 MOR+ALE, 19 SU(I)N+EG rising, 22 t(WING)e.

**Slot 4 Penobscot. A** cryptic def, **B** pun, **C** DD, **D** DD, **E** Cryptic def, **F** cryptic def, **G** anag, **H** pun, **IMPERI** (A) L, **JAM** + M + IE + R, **K** humorous ref to song, **LING** + ERIE, **MEN** + ACED, **N** DD, **O** cryptic def, **PEER** (L) ESS, **QUAD** + RILL (E)S, **ROAD** + RUNNER, **S** DD, **T** ROT> about ERR,**U** DD, **VEN** + EER., **WHIP** + LASH, **XI** + MEN + E + S, **YO** + GI, **Z** + EAT IN (in *Chambers* 11th Ed).

**Slot 5 Crowsman. Down (only):** 1 may(rev) inside Cocos; 2 deRELICt; 3 us(h)ers; 4 (air cut)anag + lateness; 5 rec(EP)tors; 6 c + atherine; 7 p(r)edate; 8 lived(rev) + in(car)nate; 14 don + caster; 15 add C to restless; 17 e(x) + spouses; 20 JamaICA CANNOT be (rev); 22 C + ache; 23 eras + (tab)le.

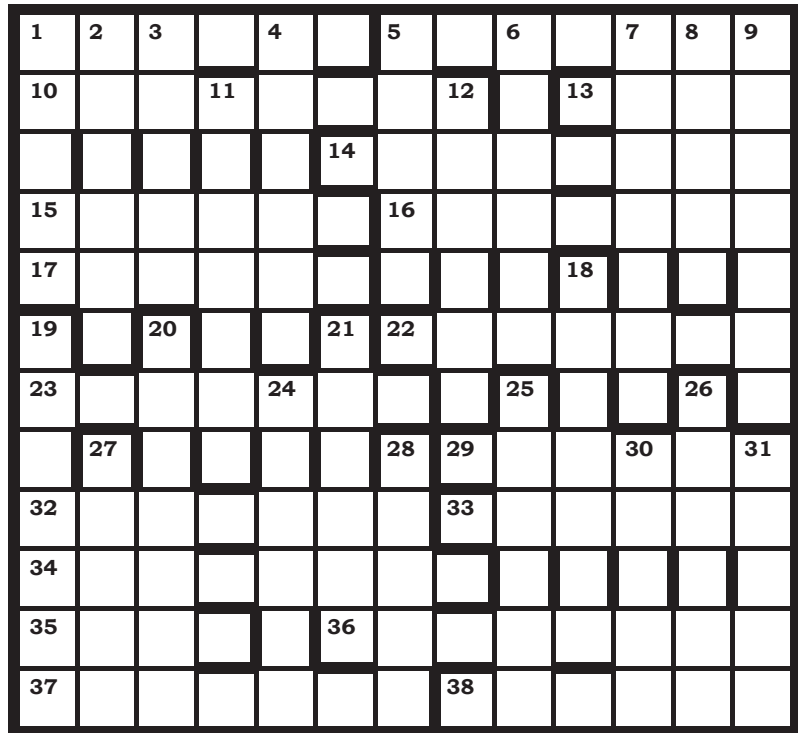
A	U	G	U	S	T
2	0	1	4		
S	L	O	T		5

**Minnie's Boys**  
*by*  
**Praxis**

**Prize:**



**Autographed by DA**



Within the puzzle 5 well-known stage names occur along with their given names, none of which are clued. Having solved the puzzle, match each given name with the stage name and enter it in the space provided along with their collective stage name. No particular order is required.


Stage Name	Given Name
<b>Collective</b>	

**Across**

- 1 More than one Muslim woman prays without hesitation (6)
- 5 See rubric (7)
- 10 US animal knocked over oxides (8)
- 13 King leading some Hashemite Arabs' hadj (4)
- 14 Triplet smothers expression of surprise at headgear (8)
- 15 Pen pal? (6)
- 16 One who contributes to population by taking in wretched Pole (7)
- 17 Coward rejected oxygen, opposing the Soviet cosmonaut (6)
- 22 See rubric (7)
- 23 See rubric (7)
- 29 Judge's given Curie untidy kitchen appliance ... (6)
- 32 ... runner Coe retired to polish until it was bright (7)
- 33 The Spanish revolutionary's given direction to ambassador (6)
- 34 Pipe's turned over to prepare coil of the great omentum (8)
- 35 Overflowing river traps rider in a recess (4)
- 36 Beats Turkey by small amounts (8)
- 37 Eminent ones taken over the church can get nicked (7)
- 38 Escape drill not required; quietly left port with guide (6)

**Down**

- 1 Herb is a saint (5)
- 2 Eliot's disheartened after dash for kite (6)
- 3 See rubric (5)
- 4 See rubric (6)
- 5 See rubric (5)
- 6 Extravagant Concerto Grosso, lacking songster, is grotesque (6)
- 7 Ecological author held by Reichswehr lichway (7)
- 8 God born as female member of royalty (5)
- 9 Mother's created a specialised container (7)
- 11 G-men run to catch bird in drift (7)
- 12 Mountain range eruption is rare (6)
- 18 Buff idol at point of no return (7)
- 19 Record turnover by East Lima perhaps, for lower class (7)
- 20 Include the case against first (7)
- 21 French philologist – dry in New Orleans? Quite the reverse! (6)
- 24 See rubric (6)
- 25 See rubric (6)
- 26 Doctor carried up a blade that's wider (6)
- 27 See rubric (5)
- 28 Odd river blockage starting to drift (5)
- 30 See rubric (5)
- 31 Cure steer differently (5)

A U G U S T   2 0 1 4   S L O T   6
<b>Cryptic by Zythum</b>
<b>Prize:</b>  

1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8
9						10								
11										12				
13				14				15						
												16		17
			18			19		20						
21		22												
23						24				25				
26										27				
28														
				29										

**Across**

- 1 A quartet of pretentious fellows surrounding titular leader in canopied resting-places (4-7)
- 7 The spirit of six males in preparation for cleansing (3)
- 9 Amplify beginnings of Turkish occupation after the Year of Our Lord 500 (3,2)
- 10 Employs a torrid gaseous efflux to manage a shock! (4-5)
- 11 Embellishment with superficial incisions – small public defacements (9)
- 12 Coarse nature with clumsy nude removed is foliage suitable for human consumption (5)
- 13 Perversely reclaim supernatural occurrence (7)
- 15 Presses upon Australasian flocks (4)
- 18 Lascivious material whereby optical pollution might ensue? (4)
- 20 Nation has preliminary speculative investment set back within 7 across (7)
- 23 Upon reflection, if I caught start of serialization it might engage in futuristic speculation (3-2)
- 24 Arrange components in an organised structure with variable trunk inside and stiffening solution outside (9)
- 26 Moist pyrotechnic device something of a disappointment (4,5)
- 27 Communicated without pressure at the outset and worked to improve incisive effectiveness (5)
- 28 Hold property planted without initiation of subtenure (3)
- 29 Reportedly propelled by oars I alight in the smallest State (5,6)

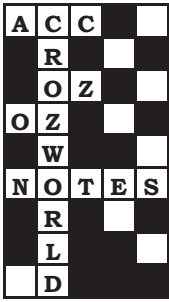
**Down**

- 1 Dreadful apprehensions followed by portent without finality (8)
- 2 Source of unpleasant personal effluvium and a derisible mode of delivery (8)
- 3 Introduction of plasticine covering for a trial impression (5)
- 4 Temporary replacement players sink into depression (7)
- 5 Smite unruly spirit within self-conceit (7)
- 6 Lucid bees in formation receptive to honeyed words? (9)
- 7 Pressed hard about nothing, gave utterance (6)
- 8 Turn in young woman – sweetheart: that's ill-treatment (6)
- 14 First half of Comedy and last half of Lear encompass unmarried female political educator (9)
- 16 In confounded sin I gain a badge of honour (8)
- 17 In the matrix I'm laid, in more ways than one! (8)
- 19 Evaluate University, do; it could protect you from the slings and arrows! (7)
- 20 A sociable call, cut short by bullet, oddly apparent to the observer (7)
- 21 Was in the habit of excluding oneself from tedious complications (4,2)
- 22 Finish drying out fellow aviator (6)
- 25 Eastern host vandalised cultural values (5)

**Post  
Solution  
to:**

**Kay Williams  
12 Lindrum Crescent, Holt ACT 2615.  
email: [ianw@webone.com.au](mailto:ianw@webone.com.au)  
Closing mail date: 12 September 2014.**





**Results of Quiz 6/2014**

**ABC by Crowsman (Len Colgan).**

**Winner: Betty Siegman. Congratulations!**

**Results: 37:** P Abbott, W Allen, M Blake, R Caine, B Cockburn, P Dearie, T Dobebe, A Dyer, P Garner, B Glissan, B Hagan, C Jones, D Jones, B Kasivajjula, J Leigh, G Lemon, P Lord, F Martin, A Miles, C Noble, J Pearce, S Pinder, M Procter, W Ryan, B Siegman, A Simons, R Skinner, J Smith, M Steinberger, B Symons, I Thompson, B Tickle, A Walter and C Wilcox.

**36:** U Axelsen, R Gooderick, C McClelland, E O'Brien, T McPherson and R Wimbush. **35:** G Lloyd, J Randall and J Woodford. **34:** G Cole.

**Solutions:** Afghanistan, Agamemnon, astute, calmness, canopy, Constantinople, dabchick, defamation, defeat, deficit, defy, dunghill, Genghis Khan, hairstyle, hijab, hijack, indefinite, Lamborghini, laughing-stock, limnophilous, masterstroke, moisture, monopoly, sighing, somnolent, spadeful, stun, stupendous, synopsis, tempestuous, thirsty, Tuvalu, understand, understudy, unopened, worsted.

**Setter's Comments:** I allowed LIMNOLOGICAL, except that removed the bonus point for identifying LIMNOPHILOUS and UNDERSTUDY as having four consecutive letters of the alphabet. I also allowed DEFILEMENT instead of DEFACTION and DEFAULT instead of DEFICIT as alphabetical order of the answers was not mandated. —Crowsman (Len Colgan)

**Solvers' Comments:**

• A first-rate, deftly crafted puzzle. 20 proved a bit stubborn and disturbed me for a while but defeat is not in my vocabulary.

Hopefully all my words are right.

*Ulla Axelsen*

• What a great quiz! And only needed a dictionary for reference! Took me a while to find the marshy boggy place – I knew I'd seen it somewhere but had to dig deep to re-discover it.

*Catherine Jones*

• I found it interesting that the iPad does not recognise LIMNOPHILOUS although it is in the *Chambers Dictionary!*

*Maureen Blake*

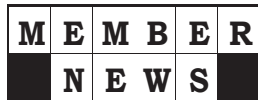
• An interesting and enjoyable quiz with some tricky ones thrown in – LIMNOPHILOUS for instance.

*Carole Noble*

**Combating Alzheimer's (continued from p1):**

The research, which was presented to the Alzheimer's Association International Conference in Copenhagen, found that brain-stimulating activities such as doing crosswords could help preserve vulnerable brain structures and cognitive functions. People who spent more time playing mentally stimulating games were also more likely to perform better in learning, memory and information processing tests, researchers said. Commenting on the study, Dr Laura Phipps, science communications manager at Alzheimer's Research UK, said: "Observational studies like this are not able to pinpoint cause and effect, but they can be useful for identifying factors that may influence our risk of memory decline and dementia. "Previous evidence has suggested that keeping the brain active may help boost 'cognitive reserve', allowing the brain to resist damage for longer, and this study adds to the ongoing 'use it or lose it' debate."

Visit: <http://www.theguardian.com/society/2014/jul/14/playing-games-puzzles-may-stave-off-alzheimers-study>



**New Members:** We extend a warm welcome to **Jill Lankshear** from Brunswick, Vic, **Alex Forbath** from Ashfield NSW and **Karl Audrins** from

Charlestown NSW. Welcome to the wonderful World of *CrozWorlding*.

**Corrigenda and corrections:** Bev Cockburn gained a dot for June Slot 1. Warren Allen gained dots for May Slots 2, 3 and 4.

**Roger Douglas (Zythum)** who is our skilful setter of the Slot 6 puzzle, is recovering from a recent serious illness. We extend to him our sincere best wishes for a speedy recovery. Kay Williams will be the Adjudicator for this puzzle.

**Vale Marie Maunder.**

We were saddened to hear of the recent death of ACC member Marie Maunder of Dubbo NSW. Her husband Colin notified us: "It is with regret that I must inform you of the passing of Marie Maunder. Marie was a long time member of the ACC and was an enthusiastic crossworder for many years and appreciated her occasional wins." Marie was one of the first members of the ACC in 1990 and was an excellent solver. We send our deepest sympathy to Colin and his loving family.

**Vale Alan Davis.**

We were saddened to hear of the death of Alan Davis on 1 July 2014. Alan was married to our long-term member Margaret Davis who informed us that Alan "had been in a nursing home for almost two years but was *compos mentis* to the end, which was mercifully quick. I am used to living on my own now but I miss his regular good night telephone calls. He was 86. We were married 59 years ago next month!"

We sincerely enjoyed Alan's attendance at many of the annual Sydney Get-Togethers organised by William Ryan. We send our sincere sympathy to Margaret and her loving family.

**Quiz No 8/2014: It's a Wrap by The Familiars**

The solutions are all well-known people, having the last letter of their first name and the first letter of their last name the same. Send your entries to Bev Cockburn 12 Norman Street, Merrylands West NSW 2160. E-mail to [bevco4@bigpond.com](mailto:bevco4@bigpond.com).

Closing date 12 September 2014. \$75 prize.

- 1 US singer and former panellist on American Idol (5,5)
- 2 Australian singer, song writer (4,5)
- 3 Former Parliamentary Leader of the Australian Greens (3,5)
- 4 UK composer of "The Dambusters' March" and "(by the) Sleepy Lagoon" (4,6)
- 5 Star of TV series "Cheers" (3,6)
- 6 French actor (6,9)
- 7 Writer and host of the TV miniseries "The Stationary Ark" (6,7)
- 8 Author of "Silas Marner" (6,5)
- 9 Former American newspaper publisher (8,6)
- 10 Actor who played the devil in the film "Bedazzled" [2000] (9,6)
- 11 One of the "Odd Couple" in the television series (4, 7)
- 12 American Olympic Gold Medallist in track and field (4,5)
- 13 Former Australian Prime Minister (7,7)
- 14 Actor who played Tom Barnaby in "Midsomer Murders" (4,7)
- 15 Former Australian tennis champion (4,8)
- 16 Widow of John Lennon (4,3)
- 17 Was knighted by Queen Elizabeth I (6,7)
- 18 Actor who played "Superman" in movies (11,5)
- 19 Actor who danced with Fred Astaire (6,6)
- 20 Wife of former US President (7,9)
- 21 US socialite who wed a former king (6,7)
- 22 Former UK Prime Minister (8,8)
- 23 Australian politician, Member for Denison (6,6)
- 24 28th US President (7,6)
- 25 Former host of TV program "Young Talent Time" (6,5)

## July 1-2014: Half 'n Half by *Timid Terrier* (Joan Smith)

- Not every adjective can be fashioned into an adverb simply by adding "ly". I don't think things can be done in an "obese" way, but *Macquarie* shows "obesely" (26ac) though *Chambers*, quite appropriately, doesn't. Has anyone ever heard or seen the statement that something was done in an obese way or obesely? (No reflection on the setter). No problems with the down (cryptic) clues. *Tony de Gryz*
- Nice to enjoy a good Slot 1 puzzle, thanks Joan. *Alan Walter*
- Is there such a word as OBESELY? *Brian Symons*
- Very fair and well-clued as is usual from Joan. *Bev Cockburn*
- A nice straightforward Half 'n Half. It is always pleasant to start with such a gentle introduction. *Barb Ibbott*
- Many clever clues. Liked APPETITE, RASP, AGATES and YASHMAKS. *Max Roddick*

## July 2-2014: Cryptic by *Virgo* (Audrey Austin)

- I always enjoy *Virgo* – particularly loved the clues about country bird and not a country bird! *Nea Storey*
- An intriguing puzzle. I enjoyed the clue association involving TURKEY and TOWNSWOMAN. BUFFALO was a clever clue that had me scratching my head for some time after completing the puzzle. Technical note: ALFALFA is a pea, not a grass, so "forage crop" would have improved the clue. Re WAFER, I can't see how the wordplay works apart from the anagram of fear. *Ian Thompson*
- Nice challenge. I found the NE corner hardest. *Tony Dobebe*
- Country bird? Not a country bird? Make up your mind. *Rob Moline*
- Rebus (T.V. Detective) and buffalo wings required use of the internet whether available or not. *Tony de Gryz*
- 9ac 'mostly useless' = UMBER coming from (C)+UMBER. 'Useless' is an adjective, CUMBER is a noun (or verb) so clue needs 'uselessness' not 'useless'. 12dn: outmoded here is to imply out 'moded tie cast' (anagram) so clue needs '!' (essential). *Alan Walter*
- Another enjoyable puzzle from *Virgo*. *Bev Cockburn*
- *Virgo's* puzzles are always fair and well constructed. Only one new one: CANALETTO. *Barb Ibbott*
- Knew answer to 24ac had to be BUFFALO but had no idea why until my daughter enlightened me about American fast food. *Ulla Axelsen*
- *Virgo* always pleases! Liked STOCKINESS, WISTERIA, DOMESTICATED and ASSAILED for COTM. *Max Roddick*
- I liked the linked clues 'This is a country bird (6)' TURKEY and 'Not a country bird (10)' TOWNSWOMAN. *Brian Tickle*

## July 3-2014: Cryptic by *Manveru* (Michael Kennedy)

- Two brilliant clues by *Manveru* – Easter Egg and Kamikaze. Pity I can only give COTM to one of them. *Nea Storey*
- An enjoyable offering. I particularly Liked KORAN (almost my COTM), RANGER, and TAP DANCER. *Ian Thompson*
- Cleverly misleading clues with exemplary surfaces. Best included the &lit of 24ac (COTM), 7dn, 15dn, 16dn. Anagrams being used in all of the four long answers enabled a straightforward start. I cannot find "England = E" specifically listed in any reference. Usually "English" = E. *Len Colgan*
- Another beauty from the anagram maestro. *Tony Dobebe*
- Liked OPERABLE, TWEED and the &lit KORAN. Beaten by KAMIKAZE – needed a word-finder. *Rob Moline*
- This was a challenge! I liked 1dn STARSHIP as my COTM, getting TARS into SHIP – very neat. *Mike Potts*
- Carpet: presumably "every now and again" denotes that the first, third and fifth letters of "rupees" are swallowed by a cat. "Internally" refers to the internal part of twinge (wing), not to where the pain is coming from. *Tony de Gryz*
- Some clever clues for POSTGRADUATE, EASTER EGG, PROFESSIONALISE, KAMIKAZE, DEMENTED & GENIUS. *Alan Walter*
- No less than five nominations for COTM in the one slot – we may need the cruciverbal equivalent of ASADA doing a drug test on this young man. Outstanding Slot 3. ITINERANT gets the nod. Bravo. *Raoul (William Ryan)*
- A typically tough *Manveru* – loved EASTER EGG. *Brian Symons*
- Great clueing from the Cluemaster. My COTM was 7dn but I also loved 1ac, 2ac and 25ac. *Bev Cockburn*
- I thought KAMIKAZE and ITINERANT were clever clues. *Ulla Axelsen*
- There must be a short word for 'chopped-off-at-both-ends' to apply in solving ITINERANT and WINGS. *Max Roddick*
- Lots of clever clues. *Brian Tickle*

## July 4-2014: AJ by *Penobscot* (Maurice Cowan)

- A few tricky ones here, my favourites being NIGHTCAP and ENCAPSULATE. *Nea Storey*
- Loved this puzzle – a generous clue for an unfamiliar word (FAREBOX) and two that made me chuckle – ROADRUNNER and CONCHY. *Doug Butler*

- A broad spectrum in degree of difficulty of clues in this puzzle. BATH BUN was a clever and quite difficult cryptic definition; however, I didn't think FAREBOX and HOAX were entirely fair. HOAX was clever, but should have had a homophone indicator. *Ian Thompson*
- Some quirky and amusing clues, of which my favourite is MENACED. If HOAX is correct, shouldn't the word "found" be replaced by a homophone indicator, and is the F clue strictly cryptic? *Len Colgan*
- My COTM nomination is HOAX – very clever wordplay. *Frank Martin*
- The H clue, "HOAX" wins COTM for quiriness. Helms and hashes indeed! *Richard Skinner*
- Not sure it's all cryptic but what the heck . . . great puzzle and a welcome return to the 11 x 11 centre grid. *Tony Dobebe*
- HOAX missing a homophone indicator? Got it immediately, nevertheless. Liked UNHINGED. *Rob Moline*
- The meaning of "no takeaway after the 26th" as referring to the placement of "eat in" after the placement of the letter "z" escaped me for a long time though the answer was staring me in the face until I woke up. "Zeatin" is not in my dictionaries and this compounded the problem. [It is in the 11<sup>th</sup> Edition of Chambers – Adj] *Tony de Gryz*
- Harder answers to find were HOAX, PEERESS, FAREBOX, ZEATIN, BATH BUN and CONCHY. A good AJ. *Alan Walter*
- Excellent but hard. HOAX is unusual and gets my COTM. *Brian Symons*
- Always enjoyable and often quirky e.g. KNEES UP (K) and ALL WASHED UP (A). *Bev Cockburn*
- Liked HOAX, OUTAGES, QUADRILLES and DINERS – so simple yet so elusive. *Max Roddick*
- Took me while to find the 'F' word in the AJ – it's not in any of my dictionaries. *Marian Procter*
- I enjoyed the way the 'W' clue used 'brace of cats' to get WHIPLASH. *Brian Tickle*

## July 5-2014: Half 'n Half with a Mystery Letter by *Crowsman* (Len Colgan)

- I placed C as the mystery letter quite early, after which several answers fell into place. There were still a few tricky ones, and some unfamiliar words. Even my husband, who makes jewellery, was not familiar with COLLET. *Nea Storey*
- Nice to see ASCIAN in a crossword. We were ASCII (techos will get the joke) in Darwin for 15 years. Loved CACHE. *Doug Butler*
- Even getting the mystery letter didn't make it too easy so well done to all, especially *Crowsman* (who I suspect would rather be a Portsman at present?). *Richard Skinner*
- Unusual, but enjoyable – some new words to me. *Mike Potts*
- Reasonably easy to find the add-on letter "C" and following on all across solutions. 15dn was facilitated by having "C" already in place as an add-on letter as if it were an across solution. "Cocoyams", must be correct (can = may upside down, contained within cocos) but does not appear in my two official dictionaries. I liked "the construction of 100 yen for cache". *Tony de Gryz*
- Was this puzzle by 'rowsman'? 15dn: please explain wordplay for RESTLESS ('anxious if going across ...') [add C to RESTLESS - Len]. *Alan Walter*
- Masterful puzzle – inventive concept that both hindered and assisted solver. *Ian McKenzie*
- Just as it was stated that the puzzles were not getting any harder along comes Slot 5! *Col Archibald*
- Outstanding work from Professor *Crowsman* – tricky device, I'm sure. Lots of fun. Wished the secret letter was a Q. *Raoul (William Ryan)*
- Does *Crowsman* ever get any sleep? Devising those fiendish "C's" is mindblowing and I'm thrilled to see that he includes himself in one solution – DEVIL INCARNATE. Thank you, genius. *Dale McManus*
- Clever and entertaining. CRESTLESS was a tricky clue. *Roy Taylor*
- Slot 5 was an ingenious idea and although the CACHE/CREDO junction quickly gave me the mystery letter, my leaping to CARES instead of ACRES held up the completion of the final corner for quite a while. *John Baylis*
- Another wonderful variant by *Crowsman*. CACHE is simple but clever. *Brian Symons*
- Very clever as usual. Who would have thought so many new words could be created by adding C to an existing word? *Bev Cockburn*
- Middle left section fell into place when I changed COCONUTS to COCOYAMS. *Ulla Axelsen*
- COCOYAMS sounds an odd mix of flavours! *Max Roddick*
- I loved Len's novel approach in Slot 5. *Robyn Caine*
- I don't usually like puzzles with lots of instructions or missing letters. Isn't it strange how your attitude changes once you have solved a few clues? A clever puzzle. *Brian Tickle*





**June 6-2014: Cryptic by Valkyrie (Ulla Axelsen)**

**Results: Entries: 71; Correct: 65. Success Rate: 91.5%.**

**Winner: Norma Lee. Congratulations!**

**Compiler's comments:** As a first time adjudicator I have been overwhelmed by the positive feedback regarding my Oscar puzzle. As a result I have already started compiling another integrated puzzle. ALIENATOR spelled with an E, UNTY for UNTO and GAGA for LAMA were the main sources of error. A heartfelt thank-you to all who attempted my puzzle.  
—(Valkyrie) Ulla Axelsen

**Explanations:**

**Across:** 1. STREET-T+P 4. O+CUL(IS)T+S 9/28. Anag of COWARD LI(k)ES 10. GOO(DLO ⇐)SE+R 12. Hidden 13. AI+ME+E 15. RU+GRAT(-e)S 16. First letters 19. LA+MA 20. NON+ZERO 23. T(R)OLL 24. Anag cOUNTY 25. CHE+R 27. ALIEN+A+TOR ⇐ 29. TON ⇐ +N+AGES 30. S(PACE)Y  
**Down:** 1. S(HOW+G)IR +L 2. RE+CHARGE 3. Anag of first letters 5. Anag of CRONIES TOOK ME 6. LULL(A+B(o)Y) ING 7/8. SE[SAME+STREE(anag of TREES)]T 10. Or = GOLD + STATU(ET)TE 14. Double 17. CE+PHAL(-I)IC 18. Homophones of horse and lea 21. Double 22/11. Anag of GORY AND hairy 26. SWAP ⇐ .

**Solvers' comments:**

- I love extensive cross-referencing puzzles, and appreciate the effort expended in compiling this enjoyment. I hope the first part of 15ac is not true, but the 13ac equivalent certainly is. *Len Colgan*
- Tricky, but the easy CHER gave it away, led to OSCAR (didn't know she won one, but GRAMMY & TONY didn't fit – did she win either of them?), and immediately OSCAR WILDE. Liked the way you cross-referenced 3 different meanings of OSCAR, and full points for dealing with the male member! *Rob Moline*
- An interesting puzzle; I like the way you encompassed three different Oscars in your theme. Very nice work! *Roger Douglas*
- Thank you for a fabulous puzzle. *Raoul*
- I enjoyed your crossword with all the Oscars! *Nea Storey*
- Many thanks for this great crossword. *Julie Leigh*
- Thanks for a very enjoyable and cleverly themed puzzle. 'Showgirl' was my favourite. *Brian Symons*
- Great fun! Thanks. *Jean Barbour*
- Overall a thoroughly devious set of enjoyable clues. Many thanks for your very clever constructions. *Alan Walter*
- It was an excellent puzzle with an interesting theme. I look forward to your next one. *Andrew Patterson.*
- I enjoyed your puzzle very much. *Jim Fowler*
- Things improved as firstly Oscar Wilde fell into place, then the various manifestations of 'Oscar'. Also when I removed 'catholic' from my brain and trusted non-zero for 20ac. *Denis Coates*
- I greatly enjoyed slot 6 and would have found it very much more difficult if the word 'coward' had not suggested 'Oscar' early in the piece. *John Baylis*
- Many thanks for a clever puzzle. I do so admire the brain power of compilers, to be able to so deftly fit clues to a theme and then get the right grid – amazing. *Eileen O'Brien*
- I enjoyed this puzzle although I found it rather hard. Once I caught on to the fact it was Oscar and not Oscar Wilde that provided the clues I did much better. *Norma Heyes*
- Not at all sure I have all clues correct but really enjoyed this puzzle – so many 'Oscar' connections! *Maureen Blake*
- Somehow I fluked Oscar Wilde and Sesame Street which gave me a start – at last! Lots of tricky and devious clues and am still unsure of 20ac. *Anne Simons*

- Thank-you for your clever crossword based on the word OSCAR. Luckily I was able to get EURO and HOARSELY which helped with 9 & 28ac. It was fun to find so many different references to OSCAR – well done! *Bev Cockburn*
- 9 and 28ac the "leitmotiv" Oscar was helpful in finding a number of solutions with Oscar connections. 10ac was a stumbling block, as at first I took "loser" instead of "goose" to be a fool. *Tony de Gryz*
- I think Alien for Repugnant in 27ac is a shady stretch too far – otherwise a good work out. *Stephen Young*
- Thanks for a very entertaining puzzle – I sometimes worry when I see a lot of cross-referenced clues, but your OSCAR WILDE was fair and accessible, thus giving me the momentum to tackle the rest of the puzzle. I particularly liked GOLD STATUETTE. *Jeremy Barnes*
- Thanks for an interesting puzzle. Not as difficult as your previous one, I thought. The Oscar Wilde clue was fairly easy for me, so this helped me quickly progress. I enjoyed the Oscar connection to Sesame Street. My favourite clues were 1dn, 5dn, 7dn and 10dn, with the last probably my favourite. *Ian Thompson*
- Got the Oscar Wilde theme – hang on, it's Oscar Academy Awards – no it's not, it's Oscar the Grouch. Great fun! *Tony Dobebe*
- Very enjoyable, and great not to need aids. *Ro Ducker*
- Thank-you for a fun challenge. *Sue Robertson*
- Thanks for your Oscaresque Slot 6! Favourite clue was RECHARGE. Good fun! *Michael Kennedy*
- Thank you for an entertaining but challenging puzzle. *Alison Shield*
- A nice challenge, I enjoyed it. *Ray Gooderick*
- Once I got onto your wavelength I enjoyed your puzzle. I got myself in a tangle at 14dn thinking I was looking for a film star until it struck me that whole films could win an Oscar. *Margaret Davis*
- Having to solve one clue which leads you to the answer of 10 others was tedious and galling, but I liked it otherwise. *Carole Noble*
- I liked the Oscar theme. I certainly know a lot more about recipients than I used to! *Robyn Winbush*
- OCULISTS was one of those words where you're sure it's the answer but the clue seems way-out. Then you see it – why not before? Liked RUGRATS for cleverness and SWAP for brevity. *Max Roddick*
- Thank you for your interesting and mind-stretching puzzle. It took some time to recognise the importance of Oscar, and then the different contexts in which Oscar makes itself famous! Quite a step from Movies to Classical writing to Sesame Street – well constructed. *Frank Martin*
- Thank you for a most enjoyable crossword. *Lesley Carroll*
- The Oscar theme (with its various permutations) made this one great fun. Thank you! *Kath Harper*
- I loved the various references in this puzzle. What with Sesame Street and its characters enjoyed by rug rats, the different uses for Oscar and associated clues, it was both challenging and fun. *Robyn Caine*
- Most enjoyable! *Andrew Miles*
- Thanks for an enjoyable puzzle – a good theme, with a variety of connotations. Took me a while to see 5dn COOKIE MONSTER! *Mike Potts*
- Thanks for an enjoyable puzzle. Quite a challenge. *Peter Dearie*
- I did enjoy solving this puzzle although it took me a while to discover that there were other Oscars besides O Wilde. *Odette Greenberger*
- Did enjoy doing this puzzle – loved the 'interactions'. 15ac would have been my COTM if slot 6 was allowed. *Cheryl Wilcox*
- I had heard of the Terminator before, but the Alienator? Sounds like Arnie in Total Recall! *Alan Dyer*